he is complaining that the assets of the company have been stolen by some ' X ' in spite of the police guard. I am at a loss to understand how this is not a pertinent question."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" That is a specific question. The Hon. Minister should have notice."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, the fact is that police constables were posted to guard the assets of the Tramway Company during 1953–54. Even if the question put by the hon. Member is not permissible, may I know whether the Government were aware of the fact that even in spite of police guard materials were removed from the place and may I ask under whose authority the materials were so removed? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the point is this. The Government have not taken over the properties of the Tramway Company. They belonged to the Tramway Company and, therefore, the authorised agents of the company were entitled to deal with the properties as they liked. They sold certain properties and they were removed in a legal manner. That is the subject-matter of litigation in the High Court and I think an appeal is now pending in the Supreme Court. I do not see why we should characterise this as stealing or anything of that sort."

Reorganization of co-operative societies.

* 1435 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether a committee has been constituted to go into the question of reorganization of Co-operative societies? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government have constituted a Committee to review the progress made by the Co-operative Movement in this State, to inquire into its present needs, difficulties and problems and to make recommendations regarding its consolidation, development and reform."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" May I know, Sir, when the Committee will submit its report? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, three months' time has been given."

Hindi Pandits in high schools.

* 1436 *Q.*—Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of qualified Hindi Pandits in high schools who are paid the first grade language pandit's scale; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that want of the required number of periods of work in the higher forms is a bar to the qualified Hindi Pandits to get the first grade pandit's scale?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) 182, Sir.

" (b) Hindi Pandits should have work in forms IV to VI of secondary schools for not less than 17 hours a week so as to become eligible for Grade I scale of pay. Otherwise they can draw pay only in the Grade II scale. Appointments are made on the basis of sanctioned posts available in each grade."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, the decision of the Government to allow these Pandits who do not have work for the required number of hours to draw pay only in the Grade II scale has been responsible for reverting a good number of persons who have put in many years of service and their salaries have been seriously affected. May I therefore request the Government to consider the case of those Pandits who have been drawing the I Grade scale of pay sympathetically and allow them to continue to draw that scale of pay itself? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I have received representations in this matter and the Government are examining the question."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that no such conditions are laid down in regard to Sanskrit and Malayalam Pandits and will the Government sympathetically consider the case of these Hindi Pandits and treat them on a par with Sanskrit and Malayalam Pandits? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir, that is the intention of the Government. But still in appointing Hindi Pandits and giving them Grade I scale of pay, a condition has been laid down that they should have work for a sufficient number of hours. That is the only condition laid down and I think it is a salutary condition, because there should not be nominal appointments and salaries drawn on those nominal appointments."

8-40 a.m. SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Are the Government aware that in many High Schools under the District Boards as well as the Government, there are no Hindi Pandits who are paid on the first-grade scales, just because they do not have the opportunity to work for 17 hours? The Hon. Minister just now said that there is a minimum sanctioned strength for each High School. Will the Government reconsider the case of Hindi Pandits and sanction a minimum strength of one or two First Grade Pandits for each high school? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the question is this. When a person is appointed, he should have sufficient number of hours of work, so that he may become entitled to pay in the First Grade scale. Recently, we have passed orders giving option to take Hindi as Part II. I am hoping that this will give some more work to Pandits and it would

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be possible to pay such Pandits on Grade I scales. We shall watch how it works and even if that should create any difficulties, we shall then examine the position a little later.''

SRI Y. MAJAYA SHETTY :—'' Sir, in view of the policy of the Government to encourage Hindi as a National Language, may I request the Government to consider the cases of these Pandits sympathetically and grant them First Grade scales? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' It is because we want to encourage Hindi, that we want to utilise these Pandits properly; they should not be appointed and left without work in the high schools.''

SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—'' Will the Government consider the question of making Hindi compulsory for study in the schools so that this problem can be solved? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I do not think making the study compulsory will solve that problem.''

(The Hon. Minister Sri B. Parameswaran had by then come to the House.)

MR. SPEAKER :—'' Shall we now take up the first question? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' Yes, Sir, it may be taken. I am sorry for the delay.''

Scholarships to Harijans and Backward classes.

* 1432 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of scholarship forms printed at the Government Press, Madras, on the requisition of the Director of Harijan Welfare in the year 1953 for the use of Harijans and Backward classes;

(*b*) the number of forms actually issued by the Director of Harijan Welfare and the District Welfare Officers; and

(*c*) the number of scholarships granted?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' A statement[a] is laid on the table of the House.''

SRI A. RATNAM :—'' மேஜையின்மேல் வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் விவரங்களின்படி 83 ஷெட்யூல் வகுப்பினர்களுக்கும் 69 பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினர்களுக்கும் நான்-ரெஸிடென்ஷீயல் ஸ்காலர்ஷிப்புகள் கொடுக்ககபட்டிருக்கின்றன என்றும் 85 ஷெட்யூல் வகுப்பினர்களுக்கும் 8 பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினர்களுக்கும் ரெஸிடென்ஷியல் ஸ்காலர்ஷிப்கள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன என்றும் தெரிகிறது. அவைகளெல்லாம் பிரஸ்தாப ஆண்டில் புதியதாக கொடுக்கப்பட்டனவா அல்லது 'ரெனியூவல்' செய்து கொள்ளப்பட்டனவா ? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' புதிதாகக் கொடுக்கப்பட்ட ஸ்காலர்ஷிப்புகளாகத்தான் இருக்கவேண்டும். எண்ணிக்கை மிகக் குறைவாக இருப்பதினால்.''

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 1079 infra.